

# The Southerner.

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**THE SOUTHERNER.**  
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## AGRICULTURAL.



"Agriculture is the chief foundation of a nation's power, as it not only furnishes man with food and clothing, but also with materials for the mechanic arts, and commerce."

From the American Farmer.

### Salt as a Manure.

Rock Springs, Sep. 11, 1852.

To the Editor of the American Farmer—  
SIR:—You would render a service to your subscribers to your agricultural paper, by stating the effects of Salt as a manure—the quantity per acre, and when to be applied before seeding. Salt is said to be used in England in great abundance, and to great good effect as a manure. We have not known it to be used in this country."

Remarks by the Editor of the American Farmer.

Salt, as our correspondent suggests, has been used extensively in England, and we believe it to be, when judiciously applied, an excellent manure, but, like many other good things, may be used to excess. We have used it on three descriptions of crops, and, as we had cause to believe, with decidedly good effects.

We applied it to corn, oats, and turnips. To the corn we applied 2 bushels to the acre, broadcast, just after the corn was planted; the season proved a very dry one. The piece of ground on which the salt was sown, was all manured alike with stable and cow-yard manure—to one-half was applied salt in the proportion stated—on the other half no salt was applied. Now as to the result. The corn on the parts salted, remained of a dark green healthy color until the fodder was pulled—the blades on the other part were early burnt, and twisted up so badly as to yield comparatively little fodder—the yield of grain, also, was considerably less.

We sowed oats on a piece of ground much infested with worms, and after harrowing in the oats, broadcasted salt over at the rate of 2 bushels to the acre—the injury from worms was speedily arrested. Oat plants left after a few days unharmed, maintained a healthy green color throughout the season; matured a few days later than another patch sown about the same time—the yield was a fair one.

We applied 6 bushels of salt on 2 acres of Turnips with good effect.

Its effects are said to be these: 1. That it acts as an absorbent of moisture from the atmosphere. 2. Destroys worms. 3. Facilitates the decomposition of organic matters, and thus provides food for the growing plants.

We know by the analyses of most plants, that soda and chlorine are detected in them, and as these are chief elements of common salt, we infer that they are essential ingredients in most vegetable products; and if not pre-existing in the soil in sufficient quantities, that it can be very advantageously applied.

Its modes of application, are—1. By composting with barn-yard and other manures; and 2. By sowing broadcast after the seed may be sown, and the ground harrowed.

Quantity per acre.—Opinion varies as to the proper quantity per acre. While some have applied as large a quantity per acre, as 20 bushels, others are content with 1, 2, and 3 bushels. Our own opinion, is, that 2 bushels is about the right quantity. It is but fair to remark, that, in England, practice seems to have settled down upon 2 bushels of salt to one of seed.

That portion of the following letter, on the duty of farmers to disseminate important facts in agriculture, we particularly commend to our readers.

### ON THE USE OF GUANO.

CHARLESTON, S. C., June 26, 1852.  
To the Editor of the American Farmer.

Dear Sir—Believing that it is the

duty as well as the privilege of every subscriber to your valuable paper, to co-operate with you in disseminating important facts in agriculture, as may from time to time become known to one and another of them, I do not mean by this the teachings of theories, for they are entirely too delusive for a farmer's use, but the practical teachings of experiments actually and correctly made, so that there can be no mistake about truth.

I have something to say, by the way, to economise in the use of guano, which from its high price is a matter of no little importance to the farmer. It must be known to all who have used this manure, that a bag of it contains about one-half in powder, and the other half in lumps; now, if it be applied to land without first separating the powder from the lumps, a great loss evidently will ensue. So, on my opening the first bag that I had ever used, it became a matter of thought with me, in what way I could most effectually, and at the same time most expeditiously, make the separation. I was at once led to adopt the sieve, but to use it to its full advantage some attendant convenience was necessary, so I had a box made of two-inch plank, nine feet long by five feet wide, and fourteen inches deep. This box was divided into three divisions, by two shifting boards, crossways, which slide into grooves made in the side boards, so that the box can at any time be used as a whole or in two or three divisions, just as circumstances might require. Now for the operation of sifting: I have a bag of guano opened quite near one end of the box, and commence sifting; the fine falls into the division next to the bag, the lumps that remain in the sieve are thrown into one of the other divisions. In this way the mass is effectually and expeditiously separated. The fine is then liberally sprinkled with salt water from the river, and well mixed; it is then fit for use. The lumps are well saturated also with salt water, and in a few days begin gradually to crumble when stored; a resifting may then be made, and so on until all is brought to a condition to apply. Great economy also can be exercised in applying guano to land.—To use it as a top-dressing is absolutely useless; nay, it is positively injurious, for it will destroy the leaf if any adhere to it, if not the plant itself. I once tried it as a top-dressing to some rows of cow peas when a foot high; the result was the scalding of the leaves, without any benefit to the growth or product of the plant. There is also a great loss in broadcast-casting, although it may be ploughed in with all despatch, unless it is done in cloudy or rainy weather. I have abandoned the use of guano in any other way except in trenches; in this way the full benefit of the guano applied is obtained for the plant, without any loss whatever. For the planting of corn, I run a double mould plough, and thus open a deep and wide trench—the land having been well ploughed and harrowed previously—every 4 or 5 feet apart—a hand follows with a bucket containing 10 pounds of guano dumped with salt water, or mixed with one-third salt or plaster, which is sprinkled as evenly as possible in the trench 210 feet long—being the length of an acre; this hand is immediately followed by another with horse and sub-soil plough, which is run once up and down the trench as deep as possible, when the guano and earth becomes completely incorporated. Another hand follows with a marker, making dots at every 18 inches distance; this hand is followed by a sower, dropping 4 or 5 grains at every dot. When the entire row is planted, a common plough is run along it, covering the corn, and thus we continue until the whole field is planted; then a moderately heavy harrow is run up and down the rows, (not across them,) to level the bed made over the corn by the plough, which finishes the entire operation.—These detailed operations may be thought to be slow and tedious, but they are not so; they are systematic, but yet as expeditious as any other plan that can be adopted in carefully setting a crop of corn; the advantages also must be obvious to every practical farmer. I saw in one of our Charleston papers, an article taken from the Frederick Herald, which gives the credit to the Hon. James A. Pearce of writing about guano as follows:

Now, this loose and short handed way of giving practical results, cannot benefit any one, but may, and no doubt will, do much harm; for, if the statement is relied on, it must greatly enhance the price of guano for such time at least until the "delusion" is made manifest. Several points in this short paragraph struck me as singular: First, "that an acre of very poor land should have been sown in wheat, without any previous preparation to assist the soil. Secondly—all we know of the product is, that the wheat doubled in quantity at least, and fine clover succeeded it; and in two crops, one of corn and the other small grain last year and the present, effects are still apparent."

Now, Mr. Editor, if there is no mistake about this, then is guano better worth 4 or 5 cents the pound than it is now worth 2 1/2 cents; but my experience is quite different. I have never known the virtue of guano, applied in the surest and best manner possible, at the rate per acre of 420 lbs. on good land, ("not very poor land,") to extend beyond the crop of corn with which it was sown, except in the immediate crop of grass that followed. Further, I do not believe that 450 lbs. sown broadcast per acre on good land, and carefully ploughed in, is more than sufficient for the wants of a good and luxurious crop of grain, and that with the making of this crop ends all the virtue of the guano, so that the cost of it must necessarily be charged to that particular crop. On this last proposition I challenge properly-voiced contradiction, and should be glad to discover that I am in error. Very respectfully yours, &c.

JOHN DEWEES.

## MISCELLANY.

### Daniel Webster's

#### DYING OPINION OF THE WHIG PARTY.

From an article in yesterday's Gazette, copied from the Pennsylvania of the 2d inst., we find the following opinion of the Whig party by Daniel Webster, on his dying bed. It is communicated to the Pennsylvania by Mr. John Broadhead, who says:

"On my return from a visit to General Pierce, on Thursday last, I stopped for a day in the city of Boston, where I had the honor of an introduction to Peter Harvey, Esq., of that city, the intimate personal and political friend of the lamented Webster. In the course of a conversation with a mutual friend and myself, Mr. Harvey said in substance as follows: 'Mr. Webster asked me a short time before his death, whether Rufus Choate intended going for Scott? I answered I did not know, but thought not.' 'Well,' said Mr. Webster, tell him he has youth, talents, and a bright future before him, and I hope he won't mar all by supporting Scott. And tell him, as my dying message to him, that after the second day of November next, the Whig party, as a national party, will exist only in history.'"

The above is the substance of Mr. Harvey's statement—the words in italics his exact words.

### The New Crystal Palace

AT SYDENHAM, NEAR LONDON.

The last load of materials, the debris of the London Crystal Palace, were removed to their new site at Sydenham, on the 1st of this month. From all accounts the new Crystal Palace will exceed its predecessor in its decorations and general arrangements. No expense appears to be spared in rendering it a model edifice—one of the grand sights of the world. M. Bonomi is occupied in arranging the specimens of Egyptian architecture, among which is a model of the rock-hewn temple of Abusimel, sphinxes, obelisks, and those strange paintings which abound in the tombs of ancient Thebes. The intention is to illustrate, by this means, the different epochs of Egyptian history. Models of the celebrated Ghibardi gates, and the principal figures from the Medici chapel at Florence, which latter are

deemed the master-pieces of Michael Angelo, have been obtained by Messrs. Jones and Wyatt, who are travelling on the continent of Europe for the purpose of securing the chef d'œuvres of art for the People's Palace. There is a similar activity and spirit exhibited about the grounds as in the erection of the building itself. Sir Joseph Paxton has ordered 50,000 scarlet geraniums to be supplied next spring, and the celebrated collection of palms, belonging to the Messrs. Loddiges, of Hackney, have been purchased by the Company. The steam engines have been ordered to work the water that is to adorn the palace and grounds, and already erect columns mark nearly the entire length of the building. The proprietors of the obelisks and blocks of marble and stone which stood outside the great Exhibition Building, have presented them to the Crystal Palace Company.

Scientific American.

### Stockholders' Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders in the Wilmington & Raleigh Rail Road Co., took place at the Court House yesterday, Nov. 11th, 1852. Col. John D. Jones was called to the chair, and M. London, Esq., and Dr. T. M. Mercer, appointed secretaries.

On motion, the secretaries were appointed a committee to verify proxies. It appeared, upon examination, that about ten thousand shares of stock were represented—about seven thousand by proxy, and the balance in person. Miles Costin, Esq., held the proxy of the State. Gen. Harlee represented the Manchester Railroad Company.

The reports of the various officers of the Road were read and unanimously concurred in. They exhibit the affairs of the Company in a flourishing condition, with every indication of prosperity in the future. On motion of Gen. Harlee, all matters connected with the declaration of future dividends, and the creation of a sinking fund for the payment of the debt of the Company, were referred to the President and Directors.

—On motion of F. J. Hill, the chairman appointed Messrs. Rob't G. Rankin, M. Ferrall, and Henry Baker, auditing committee for the ensuing year.

General Alexander M'Rae was unanimously re-elected to the office of President, and the following gentlemen chosen Directors on behalf of the individual stockholders:

E. B. Dudley, E. P. Hall, A. J. DeRosset, Jr., P. K. Dickinson, G. Potter, J. D. Bellamy. And the following appointed on the part of the State: L. H. B. Whitaker, Wm. K. Lane, Wm. C. Bettencourt, and Wm. A. Wright. The appointment of State Directors, is made by the Board of Internal Improvements, of which the Governor is President ex officio.

A resolution was adopted, voting \$1,000 to Gen'l M'Rae, President of the Road, in acknowledgment of the sense of his faithful and efficient services entertained by the Company. At the request of Gen. M'Rae, this resolution was rescinded; when, on motion of Rice B. Pierce, Esq., amended by Isaac Northrop, Esq., the following was adopted:

Resolved, That the salary of the President of the Company for the ensuing year be \$3,000.

The following resolution was also adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting not only concur in the policy and action pursued by the President and Directors for the last year, but consider them entitled to the thanks of the Stockholders, for their official services in managing the Company's affairs.

Wm. A. Wright, O. G. Parsley and M. London, Esqrs., were appointed a committee to prepare the proceedings of the meeting for publication. The thanks of the meeting were tendered to the Chairman and Secretaries, and it then adjourned.

Upon the whole the occasion was a very pleasant one. There were cheerful faces throughout the room, and a spirit of harmony and good feeling prevailed, which certainly was not marred by the announcement of the Treasurer, that gentlemen from the country could have their dividends paid that afternoon, at the office of the Company.

This morning at 10 o'clock, the Stockholders and others are to have an excursion over the Manchester Road as far as Waccamaw Lake and back. They will probably return about five or six. It will, no doubt, be a delightful trip, and one we should like to take, but Editors have no holidays, and we submit with a groan.

We look forward to the speedy completion of the Manchester work, and the attainment of a par market rate for its stock, as well as that of the old Road.

At night, Major M'Farland, of Cheraw, made an address in the Court House, on behalf of the Cheraw and Darlington Road.—Wil. Journal.

### WILMINGTON & R. R. COMPANY,

#### Report of the Auditing Committee.

The Committee appointed at the last annual meeting of the Stockholders, for the purpose of Auditing the Accounts of the Company for the year ending 1st October, 1852, beg leave to report that they have examined the books, and compared the entries with vouchers and find them correct, with the exception of a few discrepancies, amounting in all to one hundred and twenty three and 70-100 dollars, which will appear to the credit of the Company in the ensuing year's business.

The results of the Company's operations for the past year are as follows:

Amount received from	
through travel,	\$200,425 02
Amount received from	
way do	98,935 10
Freight on Rail Road,	110,194 09
Freight, Meals, &c, on	
Steam Boats,	18,420 52
Transportation of Mails,	
rents, &c.,	82,063 99
	\$510,038 72

#### EXPENSES.

Cost of transportation, including purchase of locomotives, coaches and cars,	\$119,859 09
Railroad repairs	53,847 81
Expense of Steam	
Boats,	152,030 77
Office expenses,	172 21
Interest and	
exchange,	68,230 19
	394,140 07

Net profits, \$115,898 65  
We find the total liabilities of the Company on the 1st Oct., 1852, to be \$1,134,698 83, consisting of the following items:

Old Bonds payable in England at 5 per cent,	222,666 67
Bonds endorsed by State of Carolina at 6 per cent,	250,000 00
Bonds to Literary Fund of N. Carolina at 6 per cent,	85,000 00
New Bonds payable in England,	\$520,000 00
Less in the hands of Agents unsold	\$7,111 11
Bonds to U. States payable in mail service,	47,754 21
Bills payable,	41,659 76
Do do special,	11,000 00
Due on pay rolls,	7,037 62
Due on Negro Bonds, from 1844 to 1852, inclusive,	29,695 83
Due on Dividend No 1,	1,308 00
Due on sundry individuals,	5,118 28
Balance due on 30 shares surrendered stock, to be rode out	569 56
	\$1,134,698 83

On comparing the reports of last year, we find an apparent discrepancy between the reports of the Auditing Committee and that of the Treasurer, amounting to \$42,666 66, he making the debt of the Company that amount more than the Committee. It appears that the amount of the Company's bonds, then on hand, had been appropriated to a payment of Iron for reconstruction, but as no vouchers for the same, at that time, were before the Committee, they did not therefore recognize it as a debt of the Company.

The following was the condition of the Company on 1st October, 1852: Debt of the Company, \$1,134,698 83 Capital stock paid in, 1,338,878 08 Balance of profits from commencement of operations to 1st October, 1852, after paying interest on debt,

	\$2,965,574 00
Cost of construction, Real Estate, &c.	2,075,052 52
Reconstruction,	773,650 85
30 shares of Company's stock,	3,000 00
Due on stock forfeited,	950 00
Paid on subscription to W. & M. R. R. Co.,	5,880 50
Paid on W & N. O. Telegraph stock	3,250 00
Due by individuals,	20,151 42
Bills receivable,	2,365 11
Due by Agents,	5,720 02
Due for mail service,	31,173 16
Counterfeit money,	110 44

In Bank to credit of President, 25,990 20  
Cash in hand of Treasurer, 29,248 88 \$2,965,574 00

We would respectfully call attention to the suggestion of the Committee, in their report of last year, relative to closing definitely, the unpaid stock and old accounts of long standing.

We would further state that the opinions of your Committee have undergone no change on the subject of the declaration of future dividends by the Company, as expressed in their last report. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JOHN MCRAE, SR. } Com-  
HENRY NUTT, } mittee.  
M. FERRALL.

### Woman's Rights.

#### A STORY OF LEAP YEAR.

Sam Smith sat at home on New Year's day, in dishabille. His beard was unshaven, his hair uncombed, his long boots were unblacked and he was leaning back in a picturesque attitude, with his heels against the mantle-piece smoking a cigar. Sam thought to himself that if it was leap year how glorious it would be if the ladies would pop the question in accordance with their ancient privileges.

As he was watching the smoke which so gracefully curled, his fancy glowed with the idea, how delightful it would be to have dear creatures endeavoring to do the agreeable.

As he meditated his heart softened, and he began to feel a squeamish, womanish sensibility diffuse over his feelings, and he thought he would faint and play propriety the first time a lady should squeeze his hand.

Rap, rap, rap, sounded at the door. Sam peeped through the Venetian blinds.

'Mercy!' exclaimed he, 'if there isn't Miss Jones, and I in dishabille, and looking like a fright, good gracious. I must go right away and fix myself.

As he left the room Miss Jones entered, and with a composed air intimated that she would wait. Miss Jones was a firm believer in woman's rights, and now that the season was propitious, she determined to take advantage thereof, and do a little courting on her own hook. It was one of woman's privileges, which had been usurped by the tyrant man, and determined to assert her rights in spite of the hollow formalities of the false system of society.

'Dearest, how beautiful you look,' accompanying her words with a glance of undisguised admiration.

'Spare the blushes of a modest young man,' said Sam, applying the cambrio to his face, to hide his confusion.

'Nay, my love, why so coy?' said Susan; turn not those lovely eyes, dark as jet, but sparkling as the diamond. 'Listen dearest,' said she drawing him to the sofa, 'there, with my arm around thee, will I protest my true affection.'

'Leave, oh, leave me!' murmured Sam, 'think of my youth and experience—spare my palpitating heart.'

'Leave thee?' said Susan, pressing him closer to her, 'never until the story of restless nights, of unquiet days of aspiration, fond emotions, and undying love is laid before thee. Know that for years I have nursed for thee a secret passion. Need I tell how each manly beauty moved me; how I worshipped like a sunflower in the lurid light of those raven tresses, how my fond heart was entrapped in the meshes of those magnificent whiskers: how I would yield to the government of that imperial; thy manners so modest 'so delicate, enchanted me—joy to me; for thy joy was my joy. My heart is forever thine—take it—but first let me snatch one kiss from those ruby lips.'

The overwhelming feelings of the delicate youth were too strong, and he fainted from excess of joy. Meanwhile the enamored maiden hung fondly over him and—

Slowly the eyes of Samuel Smith opened; he gazed wildly about him—then meeting the ardent gaze of his lover, he blushed deeply, and from behind his handkerchief faintly faltered out 'ask my ma.'

A young 'convert' got up in a church, and was making his confession somewhat after this sort: 'I have been very wicked, indeed I have; I have cheated many persons, very many; but I will restore four-fold; when he was snappishly interrupted by an old lady, who said: 'Well, I should think before you confess much, you had better marry Nancy Spriggins, as you agreed to.'

Live honestly, and soberly.